

Downtown Revitalization Committee

Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 13, 2012

5:30 p.m.

Newington Town Hall, Conference Room L-101

I. **Roll Call:** Chairman McBride, Mr. Castelle, Mrs. Cohen, Mr. Marocchini, Mr. Shields and Mr. Bottalico

Others Present: Chris Greenlaw, Town Engineer

II. **Minutes:**

December 19, 2011 Regular Meeting – Mr. Bottalico motioned to accept, Mrs. Cohen second.

January 9, 2012 Special Meeting - Mrs. Cohen motioned to accept, Mr. Bottalico second.

III. **Public Participation**

- Rose Lyons questioned “Whose responsibility it was to clean the snow from the walks” on Market Square?
- Madie Kenney spoke with regard to snow removal in general.
- Business owner Mr. Simonz discussed his past practice of snow removal, stating that the snow would be cleared to the snow shelf. Town would push snow to the curb. Mr. Simonz noted that construction debris in the road (asphalt, stone) can create a hazard and requested it be swept up. Additionally he requested the utility trench be repaired that was deteriorating.
- Rose Lyons requested the extra pile of pavers to be picked up and inquired as to whether there were options for the street lights with regard to brightness (i.e. dimmers?).

IV. **Project Update**

Mr. Greenlaw noted that he received notification from the contractor that the banner poles were received and installed. Additionally, the manager is pursuing the design and implementation of a Town sign (banner).

On the topic of signs, Mr. Greenlaw indicated that to date, the project signage had not been installed. He offered the Commission to consider attaching “no parking signs” directly to the new street lights rather than installing additional sign post. Photos (depicting a mock-up) were shown to the Commissioners. Mr. Greenlaw indicated that Bill Califano (Town Sign Division – Highway Department) had implemented the “No Parking” sign scenario on a light on Main Street. Additionally, Mr. Califano was going to research the availability of green hardware, cost, etc.

An update with regard to lighting was offered with the status being that public works had requested removal of lights from the SNET poles on Market Square.

The Committee had a general discussion of lights with the consensus being to allow light removal (on SNET poles). Mr. Simonz raised concern with regard to the amount of light remaining as it pertains to the building, alley and safety.

Mr. Greenlaw noted that the cost associated with the relocation of (3) SNET poles and (1) hydrant (north side of Market Sq. #28 to #84) would be explored. It was reiterated that it was never the intention (project scope) to relocate these utilities and they permitted appropriate passage to pedestrians. It is the articulate design of the paver pattern that accentuates a potential plan or restriction.

Mr. Shields noted that the orientation of the new street signs was incorrect. Mr. Greenlaw indicated this item was brought to the attention of the contractor. Additionally, he offered Committee members to take note of any/all deficiencies (i.e. punch list) that would be conveyed to the contractor for corrective measures prior to completion of the job.

Mr. Bottalico questioned whether signage for Market Square and the Municipal Lot would fall within purview of Downtown Revitalization Committee. Mr. Marocchini stated it would be entertained by the Economic Development Commission.

V. Public Participation

- Rose Lyons inquired if there was any handicapped parking proposed other than the areas at east end of Market Square?
- There was general discussion by Committee. Resident/Business responsible per ordinance: reiterate per letter to owners and businesses.

VI. Remarks by Committee Members

Mr. Castelle inquired as to status of liquid damages, additionally requested a copy of correspondence between Manager and contractor.

VII. Adjournment

Mr. Bottalico motioned to adjourn, second by Mr. Marocchini.

Submitted,

Christopher Greenlaw, P.E.
Town Engineer

Town Clerk
Town Website